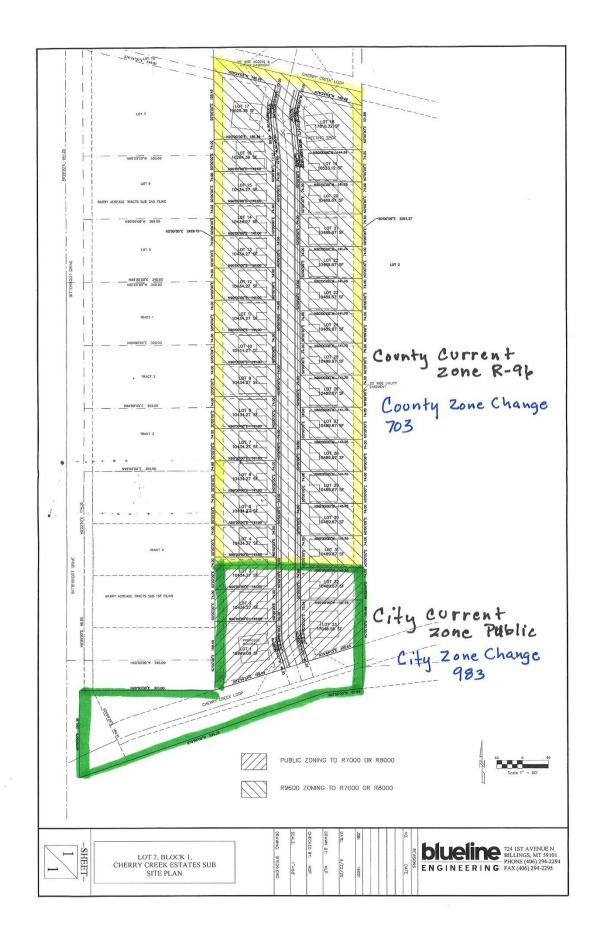
APPLICATION FORM

77.7
COUNTY ZONE CHANGE County Zone Change # 703 - Project # 12-20 - 0013 The undersigned as owner(s) of the following described property hereby request a Zone Change as outlined in the Yellowstone County Unified Zoning Regulations.
Present Zoning: R-9600
Proposed Zoning: R-8000
Tax ID# A31450 COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICT# 2
Legal Description of Property:
Address or General Location (If unknown, contact County Public Works):Cherry Creek Loop
Size of Parcel (Area & Dimensions): 375,619 5F 348.55x 1067.8 x 338.76 x 1118.98
Present Land-Use: Vacant
Proposed Land-Use: Duplex Housing Development
Covenants or Deed Restrictions on Property: YesNox If yes, please attach to application *** Additional information may be required as determined by the Zoning Coordinator in order to fully evaluate the application. Owner(s): Cherry Island LLC (Recorded Owner) 5855 Elysian Rd Billings MT, 59101 (Address) 406-254-2106 jclause@wmo-i.com (Phone Number) (email) Agent(s): BLUELINE ENGINEERING
(Name) 724 1ST AVE N, BILLINGS MT 59101 (Address) 406-294-2294 (Phone Number) (Email) I understand that the filing fee accompanying this application is not refundable, that it pays for the cost of processing, and that the fee does not constitute a payment for a Zone Change. Also, I attest that all the information presented herein is factual and correct.
Signature Date: 8-3-20 AUG 03 2020 PLANNING & COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT County Zone Change 2020_2021 updated Nov 8, 2019
Date Stamo





July 31, 2020

Planning & Community Services Department 2825 3rd Ave North, 4th Floor Billings, MT, MT 59101

To Whom It May Concern:

We are submitting this Zone Change Application for the following: the area zoned Pubic in the southern half of Lot 2, Block 1, Cherry Creek Estates Subdivision, Section 24, T1N, R26E, P.M.M. in Yellowstone County, Montana (Tax ID # A31450);

This Zone Change is being submitted to you after several discussions with Staff, neighbors, and the Heights Task Force. It is clear from these discussions that the neighborhood wants to see a project that protects against rundown appearances, reduces crime, and preserves land values. Therefore, a Zone Change of R-8000 has been requested to provide the largest lots available in Zoning, while still being able to build duplex townhomes. The single-family zoning of R-9600, drives the costs above the target market to achieve affordable housing. Single-family homes are not the best transitional zoning from the RMH property. Past zone changes in the area have shown that the higher density uses are not what planning and the neighborhood desire.

To help achieve the desires of these residents, we are preparing documents to allow the townhomes to be owned with individual water and sewer services. An HOA will be formed that will provide for oversight of building and property appearances, lawn and snow removal services. An HOA also helps form a strong neighborhood with pride of ownership. Other concerns with utility and street maintenance will be dealt with by that infrastructure being owner and maintained by the City of Billings and the Heights Water District.

Zone change #673 was a request to change this site from R-96 to RMH and the staff recommended denial. Item 8 in the zoning consideration stated that the request "may not be the best match for the character of the area." It further stated that "A zoning of R-70 on the subject property might be more suitable in density and lot size per unit to transition from the RMH zoning on the east to the R-96 zoning to the west, as well as fit with the existing R-70 zoning in the area." This staff recommendation has been used in helping make the decision to request R-8000 zoning.

The following paragraphs are in response to the questions found within the County Zone Change Application.

1. In what ways is your proposal consistent with the goals and policies of the adopted Growth Policy?

The rezoning of this property supports the Growth Policy in the following ways:

Essential Investments (relating public and private expenditures to public values)

a. The safety of all users and the connectivity of the transportation system are important criteria to consider in roadway designs and transportation plans

The road serving this development being owned and maintained by the city through tax on the proposed lots. Being a public access from N Cherry Creek Loop to S Cherry Creek Loop would be further improve connectivity as the connecting roads to the east are private.

 Public transit and commercial air service are critical to ensure access to and around the City

Public transit would benefit from the ability to enter either N Cherry Loop to pick up passengers from the nearby housing and then loop around through a public street and leave via S Cherry Loop.

c. Planning and construction of safe and affordable Interconnected sidewalks and trails are important to the economy and livability of Billings.

To ensure the development has safe and interconnected sidewalks the new public road would have 5' boulevards and 5' sidewalks on both sides. The sidewalks will be maintained, cleaned, and snow removed by the HOA.

d. Developed parks that provide recreation, special amenities (community gardens, dog parks, viewing areas), and active living opportunities are desirable for an attractive and healthy community

It is anticipated that the Parks Department will request cash-in-lieu for this development.

Natural landscapes are an important part of Billings heritage and help protect the environment.

The Development includes ample backyards and encourages planting trees and grasses. In addition, a "no build" zone will run the length of the west boundary and will be landscaped with trees.

f. Landscaping of public rights-of-way and entryways makes Billings more visually appealing to residents and visitors

The public right of way will have a 5' boulevard that will be more visually appealing to residents and visitors. The boulevard will be landscaped and maintained by the HOA.

 g. Public health and safety and emergency service response are critical to the well-being of Billings' residents, businesses, and visitors Public health and safety will benefit from a public road bridging North and South Cherry Creek roads that will be maintained by the city. This is also a public turn around in closer vicinity to the more remote Stella St N, Erin St, and Vandalay St. Giving emergency vehicles easier access.

h. Infill development and development near existing City infrastructure may be the most cost effective

Infill development is preferred when possible near existing City infrastructure. This development is a prime example of an infill project with infrastructure existing on the north, south, and running through the middle. The development is also has existing development on all sides.

i. Accessibility, friendly and cost effective government are important public value.

This will not apply to this development

j. The history and heritage of Billings are cornerstones of our community

The history and heritage of Billings are cornerstone of our community and few things are as crucial to our history as the Yellowstone River. This development boarders right on the river and many residents would travel and experience Yellowstone River Road's beautiful view every day. New development in this area could spark more interest and, in the future, and extension of Yellowstone River Road, and N Cherry Creek Loop could become a scenic drive location.

k. Neighborhoods that are safe and attractive and provide essential services are much Desired

A well-developed HOA with the means to enforce its rules and regulations will ensure this development will be and remain a safe and attractive neighborhood.

Infrastructure and service investments that stabilize or improve property values, secure
future utility costs, consider maintenance costs, and improve our environmental quality
far into the future (i.e. energy efficient) are desirable

Permanent "stick built" homes would be an improvement over the mobile home courtyard to the east. In addition, the new crossroad would provide another cross connection of utilities from N Cherry Loop to S Cherry Loop to provide redundant service in case of incident.

m. It is important to factor in maintenance costs when programming public spaces and infrastructure

Maintenance of infrastructure will be paid for by tax on the developed lots.

 Integrated, long range water planning that better utilizes existing resources and treatment options, and when necessary acquires new ones, is vital. the development in an infill project and will not be extending city water service beyond its current reaches.

o. Regulatory compliant water and wastewater treatment plants that provide sufficient capacity will help sustain community growth

The development will be on city water and sewer. These will be maintained by the tax provided by the developments lots.

p. A supportive school system that inspires, motivates, and prepares students for meaningful employment is important for ensuring a high quality, competitive community

The school system has been contacted and adequate school space has been confirmed. The new influx of residents to the area also means an increase in revenue for any school bond measures passed.

Place making (Enhance, maintain, preserve, and improve existing public places)

a. A multi-use community recreational facility is desirable

It is anticipated that there will be no community recreational facilities as part of this development.

b. Enhancement and maintenance of public spaces and buildings through City stewardship is integral to a vibrant community

The road, will be the city's and can be enhanced and maintained through their Stewardship.

c. Park master plans and transportation plans are important to facilitate the preservation and improved public access to the Yellowstone River and the Rims

The development will provide another access point to N Cherry Creek Loop which runs parallel to the bank of the Yellowstone River. The development is adjacent to Two Moon Park, is 0.5 miles from Hawthorne Park, 0.33 miles From Primrose Park, and 0.8 miles from the Billings Bike Trail network.

d. Public and private partnerships are valuable for creating enhanced entryways into Billings

The entryway into the subdivision will have an enhanced design including landscaping and signage.

 Locally grown foods help sustain agriculture, provide healthy options, and support local businesses Locally grown foods can help sustain agriculture and foster healthier lifestyles. This development includes ample backyard space that would be ideal for home gardens. The lot currently has a lush mix of trees, bushes, and grasses without any irrigation.

f. The history and heritage of Billings are cornerstones of our community

The history and heritage of Billings are cornerstone of our community and few things are as crucial to our history as the Yellowstone River. This development boarders right on the river and many residents would travel and experience Yellowstone River Road's beautiful view every day. New development in this area could spark more interest and, in the future, and extension of Yellowstone River Road, and N Cherry Creek Loop could become a scenic drive location.

g. Natural landscapes are important because they define the uniqueness of Billings and help protect the environment and beautify neighborhoods

Natural landscapes are an important part of Billings heritage and help protect the environment. The Development include very ample backyards and encourages planting trees and grasses. In addition a "no build" zone will run the length of the west boundary and will be landscaped with trees.

 Encouraging the installation of art in public spaces enhances the places and showcases the talents and diversity of the community

No art is currently planned for this development.

i.

j. Enhancing public buildings and spaces to be more efficient in their uses of energy, money, and space is important to having a vibrant and livable City

No public building will be part of this development and the public right-ow-way will be owned by the city.

Community Fabric (attractive, aesthetically pleasing, uniquely Billings)

Developed landscape areas in commercial areas encourage more pedestrian activity and vibrant commercial activity

There are no commercial areas as part of this development

b. Attractive streetscapes provide a pleasant and calming travel experience in urban and suburban neighborhoods

The streets will be maintained by the city and the sidewalks and boulevards will be maintained by the HOA to ensure a pleasant streetscape.

c. Outdoor public spaces provide casual and relaxing gathering areas for people

There will be no outdoor public spaces in this development.

d. Planning and construction of interconnected sidewalks and trails are important to the livability of Billings

To ensure the development has safe and interconnected sidewalks the new public road would have 5' boulevards and 5' sidewalks on both sides. The sidewalks will be maintained, cleaned, and snow removed by the HOA.

e. Developed parks that provide recreation, special amenities, and active living opportunities are desirable for an attractive and healthy community

It is anticipated that the Parks Department will request cash-in-lieu for this development.

f. Natural landscapes and parks are important because they define the uniqueness of Billings and help protect the environment

Natural landscapes are an important part of Billings heritage and help protect the environment. The Development include very ample backyards and encourages planting trees and grasses. In addition, a "no build" zone will run the length of the west boundary and will be landscaped with trees.

g. Cost-effective landscaping of public rights-of-way and entryways makes Billings more visually appealing to residents and visitors

The public right of way will have a 5' boulevard that will be more visually appealing to residents and visitors. The boulevard will be landscaped and maintained by the HOA and encouraged to use landscaping or low impact landscaping.

Strong Neighborhoods (livable, safe, sociable, and resilient neighborhoods)

a. Zoning regulations that allow a mixture of housing types provide housing options for all age groups and income levels

The housing for this development will be affordable duplex style home units. Will affordable they will have individual water and sewer services so they can each be privately owned and sold. This will provide a transition of affordable homes between the neighboring mobile home court to the neighboring single family homes.

 Walkable neighborhoods that permit convenient destinations such as neighborhood services, open space, parks, schools and public gathering spaces foster health, good will and social interaction There will be no public gathering locations as part of this development but there will be full sidewalk access on all sides of the street.

c. Safe and livable neighborhoods can be achieved through subdivision design that focuses on complete streets, pedestrian-scale street lights, street trees and walkable access to public spaces

The development will have complete streets with 5' sidewalks and 5' boulevards maintained by the HOA.

d. Zoning and subdivision regulations that utilize Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies result in safer neighborhoods

Because the HOA will be enforcing landscaping rules and home maintenance rules it will be following the CPTED #3 principal: territorial reinforcement, and #4 principal: maintenance.

 Implementation of the Infill Policy is important to encourage development of underutilized properties

This development is an infill project.

f. Public safety and emergency service response are critical to the well-being of Billings' residents and businesses

Public health and safety will benefit from a public road bridging North and South Cherry Creek roads that will be maintained by the city. This is also a public turn around in closer vicinity to the more remote Stella St N, Erin St, and Vandalay St. Giving emergency vehicles easier access.

Home Base (healthy, safe, and diverse housing options)

a. A mix of housing types that meet the needs of a diverse population is important

This development is a transitional project from the mobile home court to the east to the single-family homes to the west. This will provide a diverse mix of hosing options in the local areas as a whole.

b. The Housing Needs Assessment is an important tool to ensure Billings recognizes and meets the demands of future development

The Billings Housing Needs Assessment clearly states that Billings' population is on the rise and the need for more housing is a critical as ever. This is especially true of lower income housing for 1st time renters/owners, low income households, elderly retired persons, and minority groups. One of the benefits of developing duplex homes instead of single-family homes is an increase in affordability and availability. The duplexes in this development will have individual water and sewer services to each half and thus they can be bought individually. This gives an opportunity, especially to young couples and first-time buyers, to own a home rather than rent. Owning one's

home is always preferable to renting. Another advantage to the duplex system is that it allows caretakers and family members of disabled and elderly people to live close by while giving both parties a large degree of independence.

c. Common to all types of housing choices is the desire to live in surroundings that are affordable, healthy and safe

This development will provide affordable housing with an HOA designed to keep the neighborhood healthy, clean, and safe.

d. Planning and construction of interconnected sidewalks and trails are important to the economy and livability of Billings

To ensure the development has safe and Interconnected sidewalks the new public road would have 5' boulevards and 5' sidewalks on both sides. The sidewalks will be maintained, cleaned, and snow removed by the HOA.

e. Public safety and emergency service response are critical to the well-being of Billings' Residents

health and safety will benefit from a public road bridging North and South Cherry Creek roads that will be maintained by the city. This is also a public turn around in closer vicinity to the more remote Stella St N, Erin St, and Vandalay St. Giving emergency vehicles easier access.

f. Homes that are safe and sound support a healthy community

The duplexes proposed for this development are locally designed and will be built by local contractors to City of Billings and national standards of safety.

g. Accessory dwellings units provide an important type of affordable housing options if compatible

No accessory dwellings will be part of this development.

Energy efficient housing can reduce energy consumption
 The duplexes proposed for this development are designed to be energy efficient and according to the newest home insulation regulations.

Mobility and Access (transportation choices in places where goods and services are accessible to all)

 a. Connecting people to places with transportation choices is vital to the well-being of Billings' residents, businesses and visitors The development will provide another public road loop access for busses to pick up passengers from this development as well as the nearby trailer court.

b. Safe and accessible transportation systems benefit everyone's quality of life

This development will have sidewalks on both sides and the HOA will ensure they will be safe and clear of snow and debris.

c. Affordable public transit is much desired

No dedicated public transit will be part of this development but it will be accessible by bus.

 Development oriented to transit routes will provide more transportation choices and is Preferred

Public transit would benefit from the ability to enter either N Cherry Loop to pick up passengers from the nearby housing and then loop around through a public street and leave via S Cherry Loop.

e. "Safe Routes to Schools" promotes physical health and reduces vehicle trips, earning parents more time and less costs for transportation

To ensure the development has safe and interconnected sidewalks the new public road would have 5' boulevards and 5' sidewalks on both sides. The sidewalks will be maintained, cleaned, and snow removed by the HOA. This would provide a safe route for children within the development and those passing through from the southern end of the mobile home court.

f. Planning and construction of interconnected sidewalks and trails are important to the economy and livability of Billings

To ensure the development has safe and interconnected sidewalks the new public road would have 5' boulevards and 5' sidewalks on both sides. The sidewalks will be maintained, cleaned, and snow removed by the HOA

g. On-street bike facilities promote predictability for all users

No on-street bike facilities are planned as part of this development.

 Expanded air service ensures that Billings remains a competitive and an accessible destination

No air-services are planned as part of this development.

 Technology can reduce congestion and facilitate emergency vehicle travel at railroad crossings

There are no railroad crossings in this development.

Prosperity (promoting equal opportunity and economic development)

a. Predictable, reasonable City taxes and assessments are important to Billings' taxpayers

Predictable and reasonable City taxes and assessments are important to Billings taxpayers. This development would add 33 new duplexes with a total of 66 taxable units.

b. A diversity of available jobs can ensure a strong Billings' economy

The development would be built by local contractors and designed by local architects and engineers. Once finished the development's HOA would contract local business for lawncare and snow removal creating more local jobs opportunities.

c. Successful businesses that provide local jobs benefit the community

There will be no commercial development as part of this subdivision.

 d. Community investments that attract and retain a strong, skilled and diverse workforce also attracts businesses

New affordable housing opportunities give new workers a foot in the door to start their life in Billings and advance through the job force.

e. Retaining and supporting existing businesses helps sustain a healthy economy

New workers moving into the affordable housing of this development would most likely shop in local businesses.

f. Continued workforce training benefits the community and helps attract and retain Businesses

This does not apply to this development

g. Strategically placed industrial parks will encourage a more diverse city economy, and will better help manage effluent and emission from industrial processes

There will be no industrial parks as part of this development.

1. Explain your need for the intended zone change and why the property cannot be used under the existing zoning. Explain how the new zoning will fit in with the existing zoning and land uses of the immediate area.

The existing zoning of R-9600 is not the most compatible adjacent zoning to RMH zoning. Affordable duplex housing is the perfect transitional zoning to buffer the neighbors to the west.

Additional information and materials specified within the Application forms are included in those forms and/or attached to this letter. We thank you very much for your continued support on this request, and for your consideration of our re-zoning application. Please feel free to contact me at (406) 294-2294 if you have any questions.

Sincaraly

Marshall Phil

Pre-Application Statement of Owner(s) or Agent(s)

The owner(s), contract purchasers (if any) and agents (if any) are required to submit this completed form and any attachments along with a completed zone change application packet, including any required fees, for a zone change to be processed by the Planning Division.

1.	Present Zoning: R-9600			
2.	Written description of the Zone Change Plan including square footage or acres of proposed new zoning: Change to R-8000, 382430 SF 1139x349x1057x339			
	Zonnig. <u>Shariga ta 17 3333, 382430 SF 1139x349x10</u>	5/X339		
3.	Subject Property Map: please attach to this form			
4.	. Legal Description of Property:			
5.	CHERRY CREEK ESTATES SUB, 524, TO1 N, R26 E, BLOCK 1, Lo12, ACRES 20.196, "MULTIPLE DISTRICTS"-(SD 02-16.77 AC,SD 2-3.42 AC) (04 AMND ANNEX RESOL #03-17967 (04) Roster of persons who attended the pre-application neighborhood meeting: please attach to the			
	<u>form</u>			
6.	5. A copy of the meeting notice. please attach to this form			
7.	7. A brief synopsis of the meeting results. please attach to this form			
8. The undersigned affirm the following: 1) The pre-application neighborhood meeting was held on the 27, day of 3 day of 2) The zone change application is based on materials presented at the meeting.				
Ov	wner (s): Cherry Island LLC	Telephone: 406-254-2106		
Ad	ldress: 5855 Elysian Rd	Email: jclause@wmc-i.com		
	Billings MT, 59101			
Agent (s): BLUELINE ENGINEERING		Telephone: 406-294-2294		
Ad	dress: 724 1ST AVE N, BILLINGS MT 59101	Email: MPHIL@BLUELINE-ENG.COM		

CHERRY CREEK ZONE CHANGE MEETING

Held on location of property in question on 7/27/2020 6:00 PM

Participants

Leon Clause - Owner/Developer

Jeff Engel - Contractor/Consultant

Marshall Phil - Engineering Consultant

Joseph LaFountain - Engineering Consultant

Pam Ellis - Heights Task Force and Neighbor

Karmen Higginbotham - Neighbor

Rhonda & Kass Ioane - Neighbor

Jason McGimpsey - Neighbor

Bridger McGimpsey - Neighbor

Orion McGimpsey - Neighbor

Lindsay McGimpsey - Neighbor

Tracy Marsh - Neighbor

Terry Dennis - Neighbor

Aaron Higginbotham - Neighbor

Meeting Highlights

Marshall Phil – Project scope is subdivision development of 33 lots with duplex homes. Duplex homes would require changing the current zoning from R-9600 and public to R-7000 or R-8000.

Pam-

will the units/ duplexes be rented or sold by the developer

Leon – the units will mainly be sold but it is jointly owned by him and his 2 brothers and cannot say with certainty what percent they will sell or rent

Marshall – condominium documents will be put in place so individual units can be sold with individual water and sewer services.

Jason – what percentage of the units will be sold versus rented? this can cause problems with HOA control while project is still being developed and while units remain unsold

Aaron-

Also concerned with how many units would be rented out by the developer

Marshall- With 33 duplexes and thus 66 units the HOA will have the power to ensure rules and regulations involving tenants and appearance will be enforced

Jason- What about the buffer yard mentioned/promised during previous development/zoning (this was a concern of all neighbors and the heights task force)

Marshall- The buffer yard mentioned was never intended to have the entire parcel of land go undeveloped indefinitely. (Neighbors as a whole disagreed with this)

All Neighbors and Heights task force- voiced concern/dissatisfaction with the state of the nearby Cherry Creek trailer courts development and maintenance. Worried that this will be similar. They stated that the current trailer court has high crime rate, drug use, and sex offenders. Cherry Creek trailer court was developed by the father of the current developer.

Leon & Marshall Response- The HOA will prevent these problems because of the size of the development will give it the "teeth" to sue/evict problem tenants. The development will be on city water, sewer, stormwater, and the road will be a public road maintained by the city. None of the improvements will be privately owned and will be maintained by the taxes paid to the city. The HOA will have provisions for yard maintenance snow removal and upkeep.

All Neighbors — the "buffer yard" (as above) helps separate the trailer court from their homes. They like the land undeveloped.

Marshall Response- The subdivision will still act as a buffer from the trailer court as an area of lower density zoning than the trailer court.

Leon- He has to pay the taxes on the undeveloped land.

All Neighbors and Task Force- would like to see HOA draft.

Rhonda Ioane – how many duplexes will there be and how big are the units, the lots look small

Jason- how big are the lots

Marshall – The lots are more than 10,000 square feet and the units 3500 square feet. The lots are very deep, 140', so they look small on the map but have very large backyards.

Terry Dennis - will the development have irrigation wells to maintain landscape?

Leon- it could

Marshall – The duplexes will be on city water.

Jason- will that affect the groundwater? Have any Boring been done.

Rhonda loane- we have well water; what affect will it have on us?

Marshall — Geotech boring on this property have not been done. Nearby wells indicate that there will be plenty of water. The well would only be for landscape irrigation the homes will have city water service. Bores will be done when the project is farther along in accordance with MTDEQ and DNRC.

Rhonda loane- I have a drain field what effect will it have on my drain field?

Marhsal- the drain field is up hill of development so none.

Jason- has any topo been done of the land where will the duplexes sit?

Marshall- topo has been done, some dirt work will be required but you always want to move as little dirt as possible.

Pam and Neighbors— Pam initially brought up how many new students would be coming from the development but all the Neighbors were concerned about this. Great concern about over crowding in all levels of schools.

Marshall- 27 new students would be added as estimated by 40% of homes have 1 child, according to the Lincoln center Beartooth's target enrollment is 385 and are currently at 354 so it will not be overcrowded. Skyview is at capacity but the Lincoln center stated the Lockwood high school will be taking students and Medicine Crow has more capacity.

Pam— Lockwood relieves the overcrowding that would have necessitated opening an alternative high school in Billings; the bulge of new students that necessitated building 2 new middle schools are now moving into high school. The estimates do not include the impact of the Cal Kunkl development on Barrett Road.

Karen and others - believe the city average for children per home to be greater than national avg. and duplexes whether occupied by renters or owners would more likely be younger families with children

Terry - kids have to wait for the bus at the corner of Cherry Creek Loop and Bitterroot because they bus won't come down the street. And there is no bus shelter or sidewalk.

Terry & Pam — Could a bus shelter be added? People driving by are uncomfortable with the number of students standing at the corner unsheltered

Jason & Pam – has a traffic impact study been done?

Marshall – not at this stage of development but it will be required as part of subdivision development.

Pam- what is the recode zone for the area?

Marshal - we will find out what the recode zoning will be

All – discussion about the type of homes that can/will be put in. What can go onto R-9600, 8000, 7000, can it be duplex, trailer, double wide, modular homes, stick built.

Neighbors and the Task Force- would prefer homes similar to the existing nearby houses.

Discussion with Leon after the meeting with Pam and Terry

There is no open space for children or people with dogs to recreate. This neighborhood has no accessible neighborhood parks. Cal Kunkl's development on Barrett has 1 acre in the planned development agreement for open space for children. This may be a good "quality of life" improvement, leaving a buffer area and creating a more desirable living environment.